OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Reggie Wassana

Governor

Gilbert Miles

Lieutenant Governor



EXECUTIVE BRANCH EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-01 Ending of Public Health Restrictions Due to Covid-19

I, Reggie Wassana, Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, by the authority vested in me, issue the following Executive Order:

Nationwide coronavirus cases are declining as the vast majority of states report a decrease in new infections. As of February 9, 2022, the current 7-day moving average of daily new cases (215,418) decreased 42.8% compared with the previous 7-day moving average (376,855). Oklahoma, meanwhile, saw the biggest improvement over the past two weeks, and was sitting at an average of about 70 new cases per 100,000 people. As of today, Oklahoma's daily infection rate is now down to 41 cases per day which is an 86% reduction in the total number of cases. Although the U.S. is still averaging roughly 2,500 new deaths per day, those deaths are almost entirely preventable with vaccines.

Previous Executive Orders had kept many of our tribal services available but limited due to the coronavirus. The last Executive Order removed many of the restrictions that had previously been in place because our risk of transmission had decreased amongst employees and tribal members due to our high vaccination rate – over 90% of our tribal employees are fully vaccinated and safe from serious illness or death caused by Covid-19. Likewise, many of our tribal members have chosen to receive the vaccine and are also safe from serious illness or death.

We will continue to aggressively monitor the status of Covid cases in Oklahoma and around the country to ensure that we are protecting our tribal members and employees. Additionally, we will continue to keep our Covid Task Force in place and continue to work cooperatively with the Indian Health Service.

Because our risk of transmission has decreased amongst employees and tribal members, we are able to continue removing some of the restrictions listed in the previous Executive Orders:

CONTINUED GUIDANCE ON EMPLOYEES AND MASK WEARING

1. Effective Tuesday, March 1st: Tribal offices will no longer close every other Friday.

However, tribal offices will remain closed to the public until further notice. Essential services may continue with appointments only.

- 2. **Unvaccinated Employees:** All unvaccinated employees must follow the most recent guidelines put out by the Covid Task Force on getting tested for Covid-19, travel, return to work, etc.
- 3. <u>Mask Mandate:</u> Employees who are vaccinated are not required to wear a mask around others who are vaccinated while in offices or meetings. All employees must continue to wear a mask in hallways. <u>Unvaccinated employees must continue to wear a mask at all times.</u>

 Noncompliance will result in disciplinary action of three days without pay. Proof of vaccination must be available upon request.
- 6. <u>Employee Screenings:</u> All employees are required to be screened per the most recent Covid Task Force guidelines.
- 7. Work Related Travel: Employees who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to go on work related travel.
- Employees who have not received one of the FDA approved vaccines will not be authorized to go on any work related travel.
- <u>ANY</u> employee who travels out of state for personal reasons must have a negative test result before returning to work.
- 8. <u>Employee Testing:</u> Employees who are vaccinated and boosted will be tested every 60 days. Employees who are vaccinated and not boosted will test every 30 days or every 4th Tuesday Unvaccinated employees are <u>REQUIRED</u> to test every Tuesday.

If the employees is vaccinated and COVID symptoms emerge, contact DOH.

- 9. **End of Rotating Staff:** Effective March 1st, Executive Directors shall start retuning all of their employees back to the workplace. **HOWEVER**, in limited circumstances, Executive Directors may make the decision to allow an employee (elder, pregnant, etc) to work from home on an as-needed basis but **PHONES MUST CONTINUE TO BE ANSWERED.** Employees work phone numbers should be transferred to their work cell phone. COMIT can provide assistance with this task if necessary.
- 10. <u>Locked Doors:</u> Complex and Annex doors, with the exception of the front doors, will continue to stay locked. Employees who do not have door fob keys should contact personnel.
- 11. <u>Office Hours:</u> Employee office hours will continue to be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. until further notice.
- 12. **ERCs and Tribal Facilities:** The use of the Tribal Emergency Response Centers and tribal facilities for general public use will continue to remain open and available. Mask mandates are still in effect.
- 13. <u>Covid Task Force Guidelines</u>: Employees and visitors to tribal government facilities must continue to comply with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Covid Task Force Guidelines, as long as

those guidelines remain in effect. If there is a discrepancy between this Executive Order and the Covid Task Force Guidelines, the Guidelines will rule.

This Executive Order is effective March 1, 2022 and shall supersede any provisions found in all previous Executive Orders unless otherwise noted. It remains in effect until the emergency declared in Executive Order 2020-01 is terminated or until it is rescinded by proper authority.

A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as thereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of Records and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, its departments, programs, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto signed this Order on this 22nd day of February 2022.

Reggie Wassana, Governor Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes